[8th February 1955

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to starred question No. 580 asked by Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held on 8th February 1955, at page 99 supra.]

1. *Construction of a dam-cum-bridge across the Kattampalli ferry in Chirrakkal taluk, North Malabar.*—The Scheme was examined in 1951 but was dropped as the benefits likely to be achieved would not be commensurate with the prohibitive cost involved. The position has not changed since then to warrant a reconsideration.

2. *Construction of a road from Eruvassi to Coorg.*—The work of forming a road from Srikantapuram to Payyanur and thence to Eruvassi (about 10 miles in length) is included in the Recast Five-Year Road Programme. Of this, the portion of road from Srikantapuram to Payyanur has already been formed by the Malabar District Board. The work on the remaining portion of the road, i.e., from Payyanur to Eruvassi, will be taken up for execution in due course, subject to availability of funds. The work of forming a road from Eruvassi to Coorg border falls outside the Post-War Plan and there is no proposal at present to take up this work.

3. *Reconstruction of Niduvath bridge.*—The bridge is on a District Board road and it is proposed to reconstruct it during the current year.

4. *Resumption of road works sanctioned in* 1948.—In view of the changed conditions, the Government have ordered the stoppage of these works at a safe stage. There is no case for continuance of these works now.

5. *Repairs to certain roads.*—Of the six roads referred to in the Memorandum only two roads are under the control of the Malabar District Board and they are maintained in a good condition. The Special Officer, Malabar District Board, has reported that the District Board is not in a position to take up new roads either for improvements or for maintenance now, for want of funds.

6. *Provision of black top surface on the Bombay-Cape Comorin Road passing through Taliparamba.*—The road from Baliapatam to Payyanur is at present classified as a 'State Highway' and black top surface has been provided for two miles on this road in December 1953. It has since been decided to align the West Coast Road between Baliapatam and Payyanur *via* Taliparamba and it is proposed to complete all improvement works on West Coast Road during the Five-Year period ending 1955–56. This portion of this road may therefore be expected to be provided with black top surface by the end of 1955–56.

7. *Taking over by Government of the maintenance of rural roads.*—According to the policy of the Government, the various rural roads formed by the public have to be taken over by District Board for maintenance, if necessary. The District Board, however, is not in a position to take over any new roads for maintenance for want of funds.